

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A method of providing an article with first and second different appearances to meet an actual or anticipated demand for the article by consumers of the article, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an article having an exposed surface defined by at least one substrate layer;

providing a first adornment layer;

stitching the first adornment layer fixedly to the at least one substrate layer with thread so that the article has a first appearance;

stocking for sale the article with the first appearance to meet an actual or anticipated demand by consumers for consumers for the article having the first appearance;

before selling the article with the first appearance to a customer, changing the appearance of the article from the first appearance by:

a) releasing the stitching to allow the first adornment layer to be separated from the article;

b) separating the first adornment layer from the article;

c) providing a second adornment layer;

d) attaching the second adornment layer fixedly to the article; and

making the article with the second appearance available to meet an actual or anticipated demand for the article; and

selling to a consumer the article that has been changed from having the first appearance to having the second appearance.

2. (Previously presented) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of attaching a second adornment layer fixedly to the article comprises tack stitching the second adornment layer fixedly to the at least one substrate layer so that the article has a second appearance.

3. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing an article comprises providing an article that is an article of clothing.

4. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing an article comprises providing an article that is a headwear piece.

5. (Previously presented) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of releasing the stitching comprises cutting the thread defining the stitching.

6. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 4 wherein the step of providing a first adornment layer comprises providing a first adornment layer with an identification of a first sports team and the step of providing a second adornment layer comprises providing a second adornment layer with an identification of a second sports team that competes with the first sports team.

7. (Previously presented) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of stitching the first adornment layer comprises stitching the first adornment layer at a first mounting location on the article and the step of attaching a second adornment layer comprises attaching the second adornment layer at the first mounting location.

8. (Previously presented) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of stitching the first adornment layer comprises stitching the first adornment layer at a first mounting location on the article and the step of attaching a second adornment layer comprises attaching the second adornment layer at a second mounting location.

9. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing first and second adornment layers comprises providing first and second adornment layers that at least one of a) are different in shape and b) have different information thereon.

10. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing an article comprises providing an article that is a headwear piece comprising a crown and a brim/bill projecting from the crown.

11. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of attaching a second adornment layer fixedly to the article comprises at least one

of a) stitching the second adornment layer to the article and b) adhesively bonding the second adornment layer to the article.

12. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the article with the second appearance for sale at a first site and the step of changing the appearance of the article comprises the step of attaching the second adornment layer fixedly to the article at the first site.

13. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing a first adornment layer comprises providing a first adornment layer with information thereon relating to a first participant in a competition involving the first participant and a second participant and the step of providing a second adornment layer comprises providing a second adornment layer with information thereon relating to the second participant.

14. (Original) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing a first adornment layer comprises providing a first adornment layer with a logo thereon identifying a first participant in a competition involving the first participant and a second participant and the step of providing a second adornment layer comprises providing a second adornment layer with a logo thereon identifying the second participant.

15. (Original) In combination:

a) an article of clothing having an exposed surface defined by at least one substrate layer;

b) a first adornment layer fixedly attached to the at least one substrate layer with thread tack stitched at at least first and second discrete locations on the first adornment layer; and

c) a second adornment layer that can be interchangeably fixedly attached to the at least one substrate layer in place of the first adornment layer,

whereby the tack stitched thread can be severed to release the first adornment layer to allow substitution therefor by the second adornment layer.

16. (Original) The combination according to claim 15 wherein the article is a headwear piece.

17. (Original) The combination according to claim 15 wherein the article is a headwear piece comprising a crown and brim/bill projecting away from the crown.

18. (Original) The combination according to claim 17 wherein the first adornment layer has first information thereon relating to a first participant in a competition involving the first participant and a second participant and the second adornment layer has second information thereon relating to the second participant.

19. (Original) The combination according to claim 18 wherein the first information comprises a first logo and the second information comprises a second logo.

20. (Original) The combination according to claim 17 wherein the first adornment layer is attached to the crown.

21. (Currently amended) A headwear piece comprising:
a crown having an exposed surface defined by at least one substrate layer; and
an adornment layer fixedly attached to the at least one substrate layer with thread tack stitched at at least first and second discrete locations on the adornment layer to maintain the adornment layer on the crown,
the adorned layer maintained on the crown by substantially only the thread tack stitched at ~~[[th]]~~ the at least first and second discrete locations.

22. (Original) The headwear piece according to claim 21 further comprising a brim/bill projecting away from the crown.

23. (Original) The headwear piece according to claim 1 wherein the adornment layer is maintained on the crown substantially entirely by the thread tack stitched at the at least first and second discrete locations, whereby by severing the thread, the adornment layer can be separated from the crown without damaging the crown.

24. (Previously presented) The method of providing an article according to claim 1 wherein the step of stitching the first adornment layer comprise tack stitching the first adornment layer at at least first and second discrete locations on the first adornment layer.

25. (Previously presented) The method of providing an article according to claim 2 wherein the step of stitching the second adornment layer comprises tack stitching the second adornment layer at first and second discrete locations on the second adornment layer.